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# THE Macdonald Farm Journal

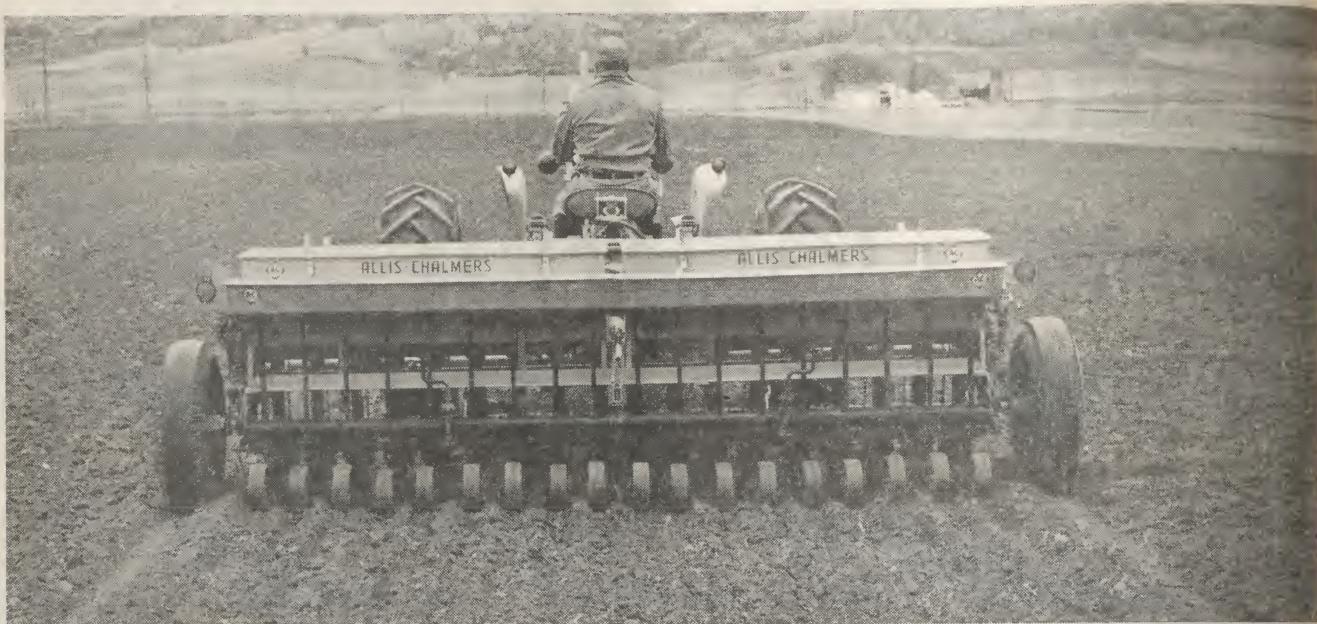
VOLUME 18 No. 6

FEBRUARY 1958

F A R M • S C H O O L • H O M E



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# As we see it

## Progress and Prospects of the C.F.A.

The recent tragic death at the annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture of Dr. E. C. Hope, economist for that organization, certainly must raise in the minds of rank and file members as well as the executive of the Federation what may be done to replace this irreplaceable man. The Federation had to its credit over the past five to ten years a series of presentations to governmental and other agencies which, in the eyes of any person familiar with Ottawa and other capitals, provide models for other organizations.

In the wide range of subjects, the courageous views expressed, the professional competence represented, it is not likely that these briefs will be matched for a long time to come. And without in any way detracting from the quality of the farm leadership of the Federation, one always had a strong impression that these briefs were largely the work of Dr. Hope. Professional economists were simply amazed at the quantity of high quality work which came out of the Federation offices. If any of them were to offer advice to the Federation at this time, it would be that at least two men would be required to do the work performed by Dr. Hope. And this suggests a matter which has long been of concern — the basic support of the Federation by its component organizations. Anyone who knows the situation is fully aware that in its influence in Ottawa and in its actual achievements which have paid off in farm incomes, the Federation renders benefits to its members many many times the cost of the operation. It is certainly time for the organizations which comprise the Federation to seriously consider putting the work of this organization on a much stronger basis financially.

Meeting just two months before a federal election, the current proposals of the Federation on matters

of national policy are of particular interest. The first action which the Federation asks for is policies to meet unemployment conditions. The second question to which the Federation attaches importance is an improvement in our grain marketing and grain price support policy. The third issue on which the Federation makes representations is the position of the dairy industry, on which one of the recommendations is that the price support on butter be raised to 64 cents per pound. The fourth question raised by the Federation as an issue of the greatest importance at the present time is the matter of farm credit. It asks for a reorganization of our farm credit agencies and for a system of supervised credit. On a matter related to this, it asks for the implementation of a national land use policy, something that perhaps can most advantageously be approached through a reorganization and expansion of farm credit facilities. In the following sections of a brief to the Cabinet, the Federation asks for a stronger price support policy, accelerated depreciation on granaries, national health insurance, and a new look at the possibility of Canada taking leadership in the development of a world food policy.

We leave it to the readers to decide which political party in its agricultural proposals comes closest to meeting the requests of the Canadian Federation of Agricultural. Our interest is in complimenting that organization on its leadership on behalf of Canadian farmers.

### Our Cover Picture

This is the best of Quebec's barley. These are the four top samples of malting barley submitted in the Provincial Barley Contest for 1957.

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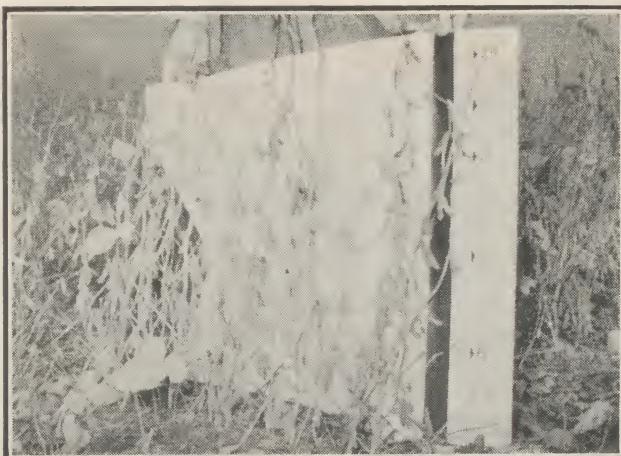
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A close-up of a few soybean plants shows that many of them run over two feet in height when ready for harvest.



This is an experimental plot of soybeans growing on the Agricultural School's farm at Ste. Martine, Que. Examining the plot with the Director of the School, Nolasque April, are a group of Quebec agronomes.

## Future for Soybeans in Quebec

**Experiments indicate that soybeans may be grown profitably in southern Quebec.  
They can help cut winter feeding costs for dairy farmers.**

*By F. Dimmock*

Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa

"**H**OW CAN I cut my feeding costs?" This is a question many dairy farmers in Quebec have asked themselves, as they have tried to make ends meet financially in recent years. Now indications are that an experiment conducted over the last few years may provide one answer at least. And the answer is soybeans. Soybeans have proven themselves as a high protein substitute for livestock feeding and the results of the experiment indicate that they can be grown quite easily on Quebec farms—in the southwestern part of the province at any rate.

The tests, carried on jointly by Victory Soya Mills, Toronto and the Field Husbandry Division, Department of Agriculture, Quebec have shown that such varieties as Acme, Flambeau, Comet, Hardome and Capital are adapted to southern Quebec and are capable of producing good yields of well matured seed, when grown under normal conditions.

The plot and field tests leave little doubt that in Quebec certain soybean varieties can, with good management, be expected to mature well and produce good yields. But this, however, does not complete the picture. It is one thing to be able to grow soybeans and another thing to do so successfully and economically. Returns to the grower must be equal to or better than can be

obtained from competing crops, or else the crop must fill a special need.

With soybeans the latter is the case. They make an excellent high protein substitute for livestock feeding. They have a protein content of anywhere between 35 and 40 percent and when mixed with oats are well liked by dairy cattle.

"How much will I cut my feeding costs by growing my own soybeans?" Probably the easiest way to answer this is to relate it to the purchase price of high protein concentrates. For example, if linseed oil-cake meal costs \$80 a ton, soybeans are worth about \$2.40 a bushel for feed use, based on equivalent feeding value even using the low average yield of about 20 bushels per acre, this makes an acre of soybeans worth about \$48.

Results of the tests carried out in Quebec are as follows:

Four varieties, ranging in maturity from early to late, and tested in plots at the Experimental Farm, L'Assomption for six years, yielded an average of 39.3 bushels per acre. The dry beans analyzed 41.4 per cent of protein and 19.4 per cent of oil. (This is regarded as quite satisfactory where the crop is to be used for oil extraction purposes). Victory Soya Mills, Toronto, and the Field Husbandry Division, Department of Agri-

culture, Quebec, cooperated in 1955 to Field tests were made in 1955 on four varieties on seven farms located in the countries of Chateauguay, Beauharnois, Laprairie, St. Jean, Soulages and Brome. The yields ranged from 23.9 to 33.8 bushels per acre, with an average of 25.5 bushels for all varieties in all tests. The average yields by varieties were, Comet, 28.8; Capital, 27.7; Flambeau, 25.9; and Acme, 18.6 bushels per acre. The field tests comprised one acre on each farm with one-quarter acre planted to each variety. Similar farm tests were conducted in 1957 but as yet results are only available from the following two:

**Variety — bushels per acre**

	Hardome	Comet	Flambeau	Capital	Average
Agricultural School,					
Ste. Martine	27.1	26.9	23.6	21.9	24.4
St. Roch,					
L'Assomption Co.	35.0	32.3	20.1	20.1	26.9

The over-all average of 25.7 bushels per acre for the four varieties at the two locations compares very closely with the average of 25.5 bushels for the 1955 tests, and favorably with yields in other places. For example, the average yield of soybeans in Ontario in 1955 amounted to 26.4 bushels per acre, while the 10-year average (1947-1956) was 22.3 bushels. In Illinois, the leading soybean producing state in the United States, the yield in 1955 averaged 23.0 bushels per acre and for the 10 years (1947-1956) 23.5 bushels. While these yield data may not be strictly comparable because of immense differences in the area under production (Ontario 200,000 acres and Illinois 3½-4,000,000 acres) nevertheless the potentialities for production in Quebec are indicated. After all, the Quebec growers were producing soybeans for the first time while growers in Ontario and Illinois had had many years of experience in soybean production.

#### Growing Problems

Undoubtedly the greatest problem in growing soybeans is the control of weeds. Lack of control may easily ruin the crop. Soybeans grow comparatively slowly in the early stages and the faster growing weeds can become a serious menace. The only practical method of weed control at present is by cultivation and so it is usually recommended that the crop be grown in rows. There are no chemical weed controls that can be safely recommended for soybeans at the present time, although considerable progress is being reported in this connection. Intelligent and timely cultivation should begin before the crop is sown and continue until row cultivation stops. The equipment commonly used for controlling weeds includes the spike-toothed harrow, the finger weeder, the rotary hoe and the row cultivator. Good control is possible with the spike-toothed harrow and the row cultivator only, using the harrow immediately before planting to destroy any weed growth and after planting until the plants reach five to six inches in height. This is then followed by row cultivation.

Row widths for soybeans may vary from 14 to 28 inches without greatly affecting the yield. Usually 28 inch rows are recommended as this width facilitates cultivation with equipment which most growers already possess. Close-drilled rows are not recommended, particularly in the case of new growers.

Depending to some extent upon the size of the seed, which varies somewhat according to variety, it usually takes about a bushel to plant an acre in 28 inch rows. The final stand after cultivation ends should be about one plant every two inches of row.

#### Time to Harvest

Soybeans are ready to harvest when the leaves have all dropped off and the pods are dry enough to snap open easily. The seed should rattle in the pods and be down to 14 percent of moisture or lower. The combine is the most suitable and economical machine to harvest the crop. Careful checking is required from time to time by the operator to keep any splitting of the beans to a minimum. On fine, bright days splitting may be much greater in the afternoon than the morning and some adjustment of the cylinder to give more clearance may be necessary to avoid this. While an ordinary grain binder may be used to harvest the crop, the loss of beans from pod shattering is increased and more handling of the crop is required than with the combine.

#### Marketing Outlets Needed

Marketing of soybeans produced in Quebec is a matter of importance as there are no commercial markets in the province at the present time. If soybeans are to be produced in quantity marketing facilities will have to be developed. It is understood that Victory Soya Mills, Ltd., Toronto, is making plans to organize marketing channels by arranging for local grain dealers in southwestern Quebec to handle the crop on a contract basis. This means that the dealer will supply seed to the grower, purchase his crop and assemble and ship the beans to the processors. If this arrangement is completed it is hoped that no grower will be located more than 25 miles from the local market.

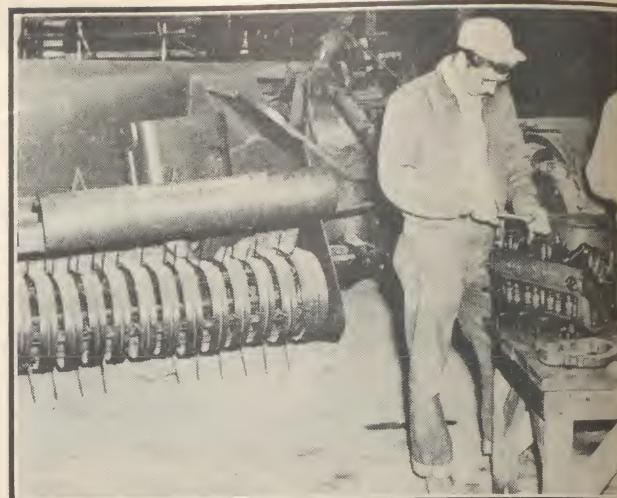
The soybean is neither a 'wonder' nor a 'miracle' crop as some over-enthusiasts have described it. Like any other crop it will have to stand on its own merits, irrespective of whether production is in Quebec or anywhere else. After obtaining all possible information from the best sources available on varieties, methods of growing and handling and marketing, it will still remain for the grower to decide whether the crop can be produced economically. This can only be determined by actual production — it may take several years of experience; it took many years before soybeans became a major crop in both Ontario and the United States.

That there is room for expansion in production of soybeans in Canada is certain. The largest crop ever produced in Canada, amounting to 6,000,000 bushels was in 1957, and this is still only half the quantity that we consume each year.

# Prepare for Spring Now!

Winter is not always as long  
as it seems, especially on a farm.

By A. C. Malloch



Winter is the time for a general check-up of equipment and machines. Not everyone, of course, feels capable of tearing a motor apart as this man is doing.

**W**HEN winter comes can spring be far behind? Although the poet who wrote this line did not answer the question, all farmers know the answer is "No!" And all farmers know that winter means time to get ready for spring and summer.

In this modern age one of the major preparations to be made in winter is overhauling equipment and making repairs and replacements. Most farmers have developed their own ways of doing things, but there are some procedures which have been developed at Macdonald College that might prove useful to some of our readers.

The machine shop should be attached to, or at least near, the machinery storage, preferably, with a door between them large enough to admit the largest implement to be serviced. The shop should also be heated.

The first step in overhauling any implement should be a thorough cleaning with a good grease solvent such as "Varsol". (gasoline should not be used—it is not only expensive but dangerous). Before going to work on a machine get out the "Owners Manual"—it will save time and trouble.

Here are some basic repair jobs which are common to all makes of implements.

**Plow shares** should be inspected for wear. Check specially for loss of suction at the point. Cast iron shares which have been worn back so that vertical and horizontal suction have disappeared, should be scrapped and replaced with new ones. Steel shares, if not too badly worn, can be repaired by drawing them out in the forge, or by welding new points and cutting edges on to the remaining metal. (This is a good place to use one of the several brands of "hard facing" alloys with which most welding shops are supplied. A plow share or disc rebuilt in this manner will usually out-wear the original steel share.)

**Moldboards, landsides and coulters** should be cleaned and inspected. All polished surfaces should get a coating of grease, to prevent rusting.

**Disc plows, disc harrows and cultivators** demand the same sort of attention as moldboard plows. Where discs require sharpening—and this is vitally important to get best results—there are two methods in common use. The first is to mount the disc in such a position that it will turn easily on its own bearings, and then to hold against the back edge of the disc a portable electric emery stone at such an angle that the rotation of the emery at high

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speed will cause the disc to rotate very slowly. A little practice will soon show what angle is best. The main objection to this method is that it reduces the diameter of the discs. The second method, which overcomes this objection, is to roll out the edge of the disc by the use of special, hardened steel rollers, between which the disc is revolved. As the pressure on the rollers is increased gradually, the steel near the edge of the disc is stretched slightly, at the same time becoming thinner. This actually increases the diameter of the disc, and a light grinding on the thin edge is all that is necessary to restore a badly worn disc to its original sharp, true, contour.

**Seeding machinery** needs particular attention, especially the grain and fertilizer drills. Grain and grass seed boxes and seed cups should have been thoroughly cleaned of all seed and dust as soon as seeding was completed, and fertilizer boxes dismantled, washed, dried and oiled at the same time. Otherwise damp weather will have caused even the smallest traces of artificial fertilizer to corrode the metal parts. This often results in the moving parts of the distributor sticking together almost as if they were welded. All furrow openers and covering devices should be inspected and serviced so that no costly delays will be experienced when seeding time arrives.

#### High Speed Machinery

Harvesting machines such as mowers, swathers, binders and combines have many very high-speed parts, and require careful maintenance and adjustment if they are to give good results. Cutter bars, in particular, should be completely overhauled. And, while they normally work without lubrication during the cutting season, they should spend the idle months of the year covered with a thick coating of grease to protect the cutting and sliding surfaces against corrosion. Guards and ledger plates should be tightened and properly aligned so that the knife-bar will slide freely in them. Clearance between clips and knife-bar should be as small as possible to still give free movement — usually about 1/32 of an inch is enough. If this clearance is too great, the knives won't have their proper shearing action against the ledger plates, and the crop will be torn raggedly instead of cut cleanly, or it may jam up in the cutter-bar. The cutter-bar should also be checked for lead and for proper registration of knives and guards. See the maker's instructions as to how these adjustments are made on each machine. Crank-pins and crank-shaft bearings should be checked for wear and alignment, and old grease washed off and replaced with clean lubricant of the proper grade. This also applies to gear boxes where high speed parts must be protected at all times if normal life is to be expected.

Other parts which require special attention on account of their high speed operation include the cylinders and beaters of combines, the cutting mechanism of forage

harvesters, and the knotters on binders and balers. Some of these parts will be fitted with "life-time" lubricated roller bearings but even these should be examined to make sure that the dust seals are in perfect condition and the bearings are properly aligned.

**Manure spreaders**, which may be in use almost every month of the year, need at least an annual cleaning and inspection. Few machines on the farm, apart from the tractor, are used as many hours as the spreader.

Finally, by far the largest part of the repair bill on farm machinery is due to friction in the various machine parts. Follow the manufacturers' instructions on the proper grade of lubricant to use and save time and money.

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## The Farm and the Market

Livestock farmers in Canada are likely to be the most favored group in 1958. This is indicated in a forecast in the recent issue of "Current Review of Agricultural Conditions", published by the Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Highlights of their predictions are as follows:

- Overall cash income of Canada's farmers will be slightly higher than they received in '57. Besides the increase in sales of beef cattle, modest increases are also expected in dollar sales of dairy and poultry products. While hog numbers marketed are expected to be considerably above a year ago, money income from hogs may not be any higher in '58, because of considerably lower prices.
- There is a slight hope for improved income for the country's grain farmers. Main factor affecting this group will be the volume of exports, which, according to many predictions, will be considerably greater than in 1957. It is also expected that farmers will also be able to reduce their farmheld stocks of grain materially, because of the larger export movement.
- An easing in the shortage of farm labor is another bright spot for farmers. This is expected because of a forecast pause in the country's current industrial boom.
- A likely bug bear to farmers in 1958 will be transportation costs. They are expected to increase due to heavier

crop movements and increased freight rate charges by rail and truck.

The outlook for various farm supplies are as follows:

**Farm Equipment** — The supply available for the domestic market in 1958 is expected to be about the same as in 1957. No increased prices are predicted.

**Fertilizers** — Consumption is expected to run at the same level as in 1957. Supplies will be large enough to meet the demand. Prices may increase slightly because of increases in material, labor and freight costs. A new Anhydrous Ammonia plant at Milhaven, Ont., and the Nitrogen Solution and Sulphuric Acid plants at Beloeil, Que., are expected to be in full production by early 1958.

**Lime** — Federal and provincial government assistance to encourage the use of agricultural lime stone for soil amendment purposes is likely to continue in 1958. Lime-stone consumption should be at the same level as in 1957 and supplies are adequate to meet domestic requirements at about the same price levels.

**Pesticides** — The general realization that pesticides can be economically employed is expected to expand usage again in 1958. Their use is considered to be far below the optimum level. Supplies of pesticides should be adequate in '58 and prices are not expected to differ greatly from the '57 levels.

## 4-H Members Remember Royal Week

To those of our readers who follow the fortunes of the 4-H Club members, the names of those who won the coveted trip to the Royal Winter Fair will be familiar. In the group, which was led by Gustave Caron, Brome County agronomist, J. B. Sirois, Drummond County, D. J. MacMillan, Compton and J. E. Audet, of headquarters in Quebec, were Allen Wayne, Eaton Corner; Ronnie Bell, East Clifton; Jean Cyr Belzile, Amqui; Patricia Frizzle, Brome; Gilles Jacob, St. Victoire; Jeanne d'Arc Malenfant, Montmagny; Therese Menard, Notre Dame du Bon Conseil; Donald McOuat, St. Andrews East; Jean Louis Rivard, Bromptonville; James Robertson, Lachute; Gordon Shufelt, East Farnham; Arthur Valois, Notre Dame du Bon Conseil.

It was a busy week for these boys and girls. Judging contests, which used to be a feature of the Royal, and at which National champions were crowned, have been done away with, the feeling being that the boys and girls would

learn more if the time were spent on tours and discussions. And tours were in abundance. They visited the Niagara Peninsula, not forgetting a trip to the Falls. They were entertained at breakfasts, lunches and dinners by Massey Harris, Firestone Tire & Rubber, Imperial Oil, Canadian Spool Cotton, International Harvester, Lightning Fastener, le Conseil Canadien des Abattoirs, Ford Motors, the T. Eaton Company and Goodyear Tire and Rubber. One of the most impressive trips was a tour through the plant of General Motors at Oshawa. On the way home they stopped at Ottawa where they were entertained by the Federal Department of Agriculture at a reception at the Chateau-Laurier.

The programme is sponsored and paid for by the Canadian Council of 4-H Clubs, the funds for whose operation are contributed by the Federal and Provincial governments, the railway companies, and various agricultural and industrial companies interested in the work.

## Farm Forum News & Views

By L. G. Young

Modern Marketing was the theme of the Farm Radio Forum topics during the month of January. Three aspects of modern marketing were considered. First, the problem of regulating production to meet market requirements was studied under the heading of "Production Restrictions." "Price and Income Supports" were tackled as the second phase of the series. And last of all, the Farm Forums dealt with "Producer Marketing", the means by which farmers try to sell their produce to obtain a fair price.

Production restrictions are not favoured by the majority of Farm Forums. Many of the Farm Forums agreed with Mabel in Argenteuil which pointed out that there are no surpluses on mixed farms at present which require production controls. However, it was mentioned by some groups that fluid milk quotas are sometimes considered as production restrictions. In that case they were willing to accept such limited restrictions. Another form of control acceptable to some groups is the present system of acreage contract for fruit and vegetable canneries.

If production must be controlled, then the Farm Forums emphasize that controls must be compulsory, otherwise they wouldn't be effective. They propose that controls be established by means of conservation measures, quotas, and acreage allotments. Even with these modified controls many of the groups think that farmers will resent and resist production control efforts.

Lower Ormstown in Chateauguay does not favour controls because they are "detrimental to progress and initiative". Another popular reason for not having controls was that of Vinton in Pontiac that production restrictions are not right as long as people are starving in the world. Lochaber in Papineau believe that the

cost of restriction would be too great, and their view is shared by many other groups. The final argument of the Farm Forums is that production controls have apparently not succeeded in the United States.

Modern marketing poses another problem for farmers—fluctuating prices. Since most farm products are perishable, any oversupply tends to depress prices. To enable producers to plan ahead, they must have some sort of guarantee that prices will not fall below disastrous levels. The groups were almost unanimous that they need guaranteed floor prices for their goods. About three of every four specified that they wanted permanent supports, while only one out of four was in favour of temporary price supports.

Many of the Farm Forums suggested floor prices should equal cost of production, but they couldn't agree what cost of production is. A few thought that floor prices should be equal to cost of production plus a small margin of profit. Almost all groups believe that support prices should be related to production costs so that any change in these costs would be reflected in support price levels. Most of the Farm Forums did not think that the support prices at the cost of production they suggested would cause surpluses, but some caution that the price support program should be closely watched and, if it seemed to be encouraging surpluses, supports should be lowered. Dalhousie in Soulanges County summed up Forum opinion by saying "Price sup-

ports would be valuable if the supports are not high enough to cause production of surpluses, but high enough to keep the farmer from excessive losses if prices go down."

Producer Marketing was the subject of the third broadcast. Two forms of marketing were considered, producer marketing boards and producer co-operatives. The Farm Forums are unanimously agreed that marketing boards can stabilize prices, but not all believe that they can increase prices very much. A few groups mention that they might increase prices by improving the product quality. To be effective, the Farm Forums believe that marketing boards must control the product in question. Bulwer in Compton expressed popular opinion when they pointed out that the primary purpose of marketing boards should be to stabilize prices, and that increasing prices should be a secondary objective.

All groups agreed that co-operatives can play a part in stabilizing and increasing prices, but mentioned that co-ops are often handicapped by lack of support. Unlike marketing boards which may bind all producers, co-ops

(turn to page 19)



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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec Department of Agriculture*

# With the Ayrshire Breeders

IN the absence through illness of President Lucille Davis, the vice-president, J. P. Legace, presided at the annual meeting of the Quebec Ayrshire Society, held in Montreal late in January. After hearing a report from secretary Raymond Lanctot on the operations of the past year, the members devoted a considerable amount of time to the presentation of production certificates and trophies, for high production in 1957 and for high life-time (over 100,000 pounds) production, and to a spirited discussion of the long list of proposals brought in by the Resolutions Committee.

Leading the list of 21 cows awarded high production certificates for 1957 were the following. The figures are for milk and represent the percentage above the average production for the breed.

### Castelmont Charole

Innesmere Nettie  
Macdonald Rosebud  
Glengarry Wonderful  
Macdonald Janus  
Maska Salpride  
Selwood Walnut Lady

### Agricultural School, Ste.

Anne de la Pocatiere	211%
J. G. Wilson	201%
Ecole de Levis	188%
J. P. Bradley	167%
Macdonald College	178%
Provincial Dairy School	155%
J. W. MacGillivray	151%

The following certificates, for lifetime production over 100,000 pounds, were also awarded:

Burnholm Queen Ann  
De Beau Cite Fleur de Lys  
Galante Regal  
Ste. Anne Mariette de  
Royal Jack  
Bonnie shade Golden Girl  
Ascott Rainbow Xtremist  
Ste. Anne Meilleure  
de Douglas  
Normandin Rameur  
Landlady  
Docile de Wickham  
Innismere Nettie

Geo. T. Dagg & Sons	111,013
J. E. Rioux	109,252
Hospice Ste. Anges	108,513
Agricultural School, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere	103,682
S. Wyman MacKenzie	102,616
Wm. Clark Estate	102,151
Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere	101,476
Agricultural School, Experimental Farm, Normandin	101,461
Armand Paul	100,994
J. G. Wilson	100,420

The Resolutions Committee acts as a clearing house for resolutions on various subjects prepared and transmitted by the local clubs; in some cases, resolutions on the same subject may be received from more than one source. Some of them were presented and adopted by the meeting with little discussion; others were more controversial. Some of the more interesting and important ones are discussed below.

It was suggested to the executive, for example, that more people might be able to attend the annual meetings if these were moved around the province, instead of being held either in Montreal or in Quebec City.



For a 1957 production of 211% in milk, 208% in fat, Castelmont Charole, owned by the Agricultural School of Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere received a provincial trophy, being presented here by Pierre Labrecque to Amedee Gagnon, acting on behalf of the School. At left is Raymond Lanctot, Secretary of the Quebec Ayrshire Society, and at right is Henri Tremblay, Federal Chief of Production Services in Quebec.

Also suggested was a stricter control over the quality of stock offered in the Sale of Stars at the Royal, to insure that only top quality animals get into this publicity-valuable event.

In view of changing regulations concerning exports to the United States, it was urged that more speed be shown in the work of testing for Bang's Disease. There were also complaints, in the form of resolutions, about herd classifying, and it was asked if it would not be possible for the classifier to notify the breeders exactly when to expect the classifier on his farm. In reply to this it was pointed out that the classifier prefers to give only a general indication as to when he will be on the farm, to make sure that he sees the animals in their "working clothes" and not specially prepared for his visit.

It was also thought that it would be valuable to have a qualified veterinarian a member of the executive of the Society, so that he could act as technical adviser.

The R.O.P. offices which have been located in Montreal are moving to Ottawa, and this fact, and the resolution protesting the move, brought about the greatest amount

of discussion of the day. Mr. Tremblay, Federal Chief of Production Services in Quebec, explained at length that this move would in no way affect the work of the R.O.P. inspectors. He pointed out that the chief inspector was the only officer being moved, and that he would be able to supervise the work in Quebec just as well from his new location, and being at Ottawa with the other services would permit him to do his other tasks more effectively. A number of members, however, remained unconvinced, but it was finally agreed to drop the resolution from the list.

It was also asked that the R.O.P. inspectors' visits be made regularly once a month. In reply to this, Mr. Tremblay pointed out that everything possible was being done to move to more frequent visits, but that the average for last year of 9.6 visits per farm came pretty close to what was being asked for.

It was agreed to hold the Provincial Field Day on the Lac Vert Farm at St. Damien, on a date to be decided later.

Although Mrs. Davis was not able to present her presidential message in person, she set forth, in a communication read to the meeting by the vice-president, the areas in which, in her opinion, efforts should be concentrated. Herd classification and R.O.P. are essential and should be practised by every breeder in the province, for reasons which have been stressed over and over again at count-



Jack McGeorge receives a high production certificate on behalf of J. G. Wilson for the production of Innesmere Nettie; she also received an award for having passed the 100,000 pound mark.

less meetings of all breeds. Better disease control is also a necessity, and every existing method of getting publicity for the breed should be explored and made use of.

President for 1958 is Jean Paul Lagace, with Clifford Oswald of Ste. Scholastique as vice-president. N. St. Pierre was placed on the executive as technical adviser, and other members of the executive are Amedee Gagnon, Douglas Johnson and Jack McGeorge.

## Shorthorn Breeders Study Progeny Testing

THIRTY-THREE new members were added to the roll of the Quebec Shorthorn Club in 1957, but this was counterbalanced by a number of membership cancellations which brought the total paid up membership for 1957 to 150. Registrations and transfers also are reported down from 1956, but it seems likely that 1958 will show an upswing in all these figures. There is plenty of enthusiasm among those who come out to meetings; there is a continuing expansion of population which means a continuing demand for beef, and the future looks bright.

The activities of Shorthorn breeders during 1957 proved this enthusiasm. The annual field day, held at Tutira Farm at Arundel was particularly well attended; improvement in quality was noted at the Sherbrooke Winter Fair, and the average prices at the spring sale were good in relation to prices elsewhere in Canada. Through exhibits at the Show Mart, which will continue, and through the demonstration herds at the Quebec Fair, Shorthorns are becoming familiar to users of beef who do not often see their steaks on the hoof. One area, however, where improvement could be made is in attendance at local fairs.

With regard to the larger fairs, it was reported that the establishment of beef classes at Quebec will have to wait at least until the new barns are completed. St. Scho-

lastique would welcome more exhibitors of beef animals, where 45 head were exhibited last summer. Directors of the Sherbrooke Fair have been having trying times, but the situation is stabilized for some time to come. Sherbrooke has always been a booster for beef and it was suggested at the annual meeting that thought be given to establishing a beef fieldman in the Sherbrooke area to help breeders keep quality up to the limit. Some competition is developing between the Sherbrooke show and the Show Mart sale, but this is healthy, and there is plenty of room for both these activities, the meeting was told, and the buyers are sure to support both sales.

Dr. Bernard of the Lennoxville Experimental Farm gave a most illuminating outline of the way progeny testing works, and convinced the members that progeny testing is the only satisfactory way to evaluate a bull. The ability to make economic gains in ratio to feed consumed is hereditary, and unless a bull has these characteristics in his genetic makeup no amount of looks and conformation, though they look well in the show ring, will pass this ability on to his offspring. He feels that there is a high proportion of mediocre bulls in Canada; progeny testing is the only sure way of weeding them out; its value has been established and all breeders should realize it.

Commercial breeders are becoming more and more



The luncheon period proved to be a good time to compare notes.

interested in crossbreeding, and here the Shorthorn blood shows up very well in comparison with other breeds. Here is another area in which progeny testing will be important and necessary.

Prof. Hamilton had a number of suggestions to make. In the first place, he urged more attention to beef club activities in the 4-H programme. We have attended several breeders' meetings of late where the same recommendation was made, and it is to be hoped that something will come of these suggestions.

He also supported the suggestion that has been made before, that the beef cattle at the Sherbrooke Winter Fair be judged by breeds. With the sale growing in size every year, this would seem to be a logical step. He also stated that Macdonald College was prepared to put on a short course in beef cattle early in April, provided enough breeders were interested in attending so that worthwhile results could be obtained.

Fieldman Ab. Stoltz confirmed previous estimates that the future was bright. Prices for bulls are on the upswing and prices for females will likely improve also; barring a general depression with its consequent effect on all prices, beef cattle should be selling much better by 1960-61. He pointed out a gradual change which has been taking place in Eastern Canada in the last two years with the growing importance of the feed-lot operator. This means a demand for good steers; they should be produced by the commercial breeder, who in turn must look to the pure bred breeder for the bulls. He foresaw a considerable growth in progeny testing with many bulls on test this year.

The members took all these remarks to heart and decided to appoint a committee to get the facts on progeny testing; to see if any progress can be made in getting the government to set up a testing centre; if not, to look into the possibility of the breeders doing their own testing on their own farms.

Mrs. Pitfield's invitation to hold the summer field day on her farm was accepted, and the date tentatively set for August 9th.

Elections brought Mr. Abbot in as president, Mrs. T. C. Stuart as first vice-president and Maurice Sevignac of Berthier as second vice-president.



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## Pomologists Talk Markets

QUEBEC'S apple growers are taking a look at new and more efficient methods of disposing of their apple crop. And one scheme under serious consideration is selling by a marketing board. At their recent annual meeting the best part of the opening day was spent discussing marketing boards, how they operate and what they could and could not do for the growers.

Leonard Roy, Secretary of the Quebec Agricultural Marketing Board, had prepared a paper which started the discussion. He urged the apple growers to form a marketing board. Such a board would protect the interests of the producer and consumer by assuring a standard quality of fruit sold to the consumer, he said. The board could protect the producer against expanding markets and declining prices, such as prevail in Quebec at the moment, he added.

He went on to outline the complicated procedure growers would have to follow in order to sell their apples under such a scheme. A secret vote by ballot under government supervision must be held first. In the vote at least 75 percent of the growers (both in numbers and value of the crop) must vote for the scheme before apples could be sold through such a board. If the required number of growers voted in favor of the plan then (after publication of the plan in the official Gazette of Quebec) all producers in the area specified must observe the rules of the Producers Board and all commercial buyers must negotiate with producers' representatives respecting conditions of sale and price. If negotiations fail, arbitration is provided for and the resulting decision is final and binding on all parties. The Quebec Agricultural Marketing Board, whose chairman is Judge Heon, may act as arbitrator.

To help clarify issues and problems that are likely to arise G. F. Perkins, chairman of the Ontario Farm Products Board and J. M. Sandham, Secretary of the Ontario Peach Growers Co-operative explained what had happened in Ontario, where some 18 plans covering 31 crops were in force. Mr. Perkins claimed that their experience showed that by marketing through Boards the farmer can gain without the consumer losing. He said there were two ways of selling under marketing boards — one by group bargaining and the other by sales agency. While the sales agency may be the best way for selling some products he felt that, generally speaking, group bargaining was the most efficient way of selling.

A marketing plan is not a substitute for efficiency, Mr. Sandham told the growers, and growers should not expect miracles just because their crop is being sold by a producers' board. But, he said, 4 years of experience with peaches had proven to him that controlled marketing is sound. The two functions of a Producers' Board are 1) sell the crop to best advantage and 2) keep growers informed as to what is going on.

Since the peach growers board was established in Ontario the quality of peaches coming on the market has been improved (through pre-cooling), a much better merchandising job has been done through better packaging, and improved relations with storekeepers and markets that used to go to U.S. suppliers have been achieved. He admitted that they had not got rid of all their surplus problems but at least they were helping to solve them. Through a grower co-operation plan they hoped to hold surplus peaches on the trees in the orchard — the cheapest place to dispose of them, he said.

The talks and opinions of the speakers and the growers seemed to boil down to the fact that a producers' marketing board can be a very useful tool for growers, but that success will depend entirely on the sincerity of the growers concerned.

On the second day the perennial argument of grading was to the fore. Again the government inspectors were asked to be more strict in their grading of apples. A survey covering retail outlets had shown that almost 90% of apples sold were not up to standard. A resolution was passed asking the Society to set up a committee to review grading regulations. This committee would consist of representatives of wholesalers, jobbers, retailers, producers and government men, and would meet with the Chief of the Horticulture Service, J. H. Lavoie.

Another resolution asked that the Canadian Horticultural Council find ways of protecting the grower from importations of apples at certain seasons of the year.

What to do with surplus apples was another problem that received attention. It was felt that "apple champagne" still offered the most promising outlet, but a lot of work must still be done before a standard quality product can be assured the consumer. Arengo Jones, the new manager of the processing plant at Rougement, pointed out that there are many other ways of getting rid of surplus apples. He is working on developing new products that use apple pulp and dried apples. Some of the products than can be made include jam, ketchup and ice cream powder.

Production problems are not the most important facing apple growers, but some time was devoted to a discussion of orchard planting plans and related considerations such as location, planting distances, (taking into account the size of present-day spray outfits), closeness to markets, etc. P. O. Roy talked on varieties, expressing concern over the preponderance of one variety, McIntosh, which constitute 70% of the Quebec plantings, and which seems likely to reach 80% in a few years. He thought that McIntosh plantings should not make up more than half the total, and that other varieties should make up the balance. He recommended Bancroft, Cortland Red Melba, 0-342, T-441, Red Atlas and Delicious.

# Twelfth Barley Competition Concluded

Vaudreuil Farmer Wins Provincial Title



The first prize cheque in the Barley Contest is handed by Mr. D. M. Chenoweth, President of the Quebec Brewers' Association, to winner Jean Gerard Vinet of Vaudreuil.

Jean Gerard Vinet of Vaudreuil saw his sample of malting barley ticketed with the winning label when the judges finished scoring this year's entries in the Provincial Barley Contest, organized by the Barley Research Committee in co-operation with the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture and the Quebec Brewers' Association.

Whereas formerly the competition was province-wide, there have been so many entries of late years that it has been necessary to hold it in only part of the province in any one season. Twenty-five counties were involved in 1957, and this area was subdivided into two; not on any geographical basis, but rather in a manner to get approximately the same number of competitors into each section.

There are three distinct phases of the contest. First, there is a field inspection on all farms entered, where the general condition of the crop is checked as it is growing. Of the 121 contestants who entered the competition, 23 were eliminated at this stage. Then there are the re-

gional contests, with separate prizes for the best samples of cleaned grain. Finally there is the provincial competition in which the four top samples of the regional contests are compared to determine the grand prize winner.

When the bulk grain was inspected in the fall, it was found that quite a number of fields had suffered hail damage and the harvested grain was not acceptable. Other farmers had not finished their cleaning operations, with the result that only 56 samples were left for the final judging. Even so, this is 13 more than in 1956.

The seven winners in each of the two sub-districts are as follows:

1. J. G. Vinet, Vaudreuil
  2. J. A. Coutu, Ste. Elisabeth
  3. Omer Adam, Ste. Elisabeth
  4. Fernand Gelinas, Yamachiche
  5. Ernest Adam, Notre Dame de Lourdes
  6. Germain Gervais, St. Barthélemy
  7. J. E. Leblanc, St. Jacques
1. Gaston Hotte, St. André
  2. Orval Smart, Shawville
  3. J. P. Martineau, St. Clet
  4. Leo Lafontaine, St. Roch l'Achigan
  5. Russel Pritchard, Alcove
  6. Jules Thibodeau, Thurso
  7. Simon Thibodeau, Thurso

A feature of the grain entered in this contest is the high yields per acre secured by the growers, considerably higher than the average for the province. No records were set in 1957, due to an unfavourable season, and the average was 45.1 bushels to the acre, which was 9.6 bushels smaller than in 1956. Some farmers, however, had yields much above the average; four of them reached 69, 64.2, 59.7 and 43.9 bushels per acre respectively. Quality was also below that of last year, but the grain was heavier than usual.

Presentation of awards was made in Montreal on January 28th at a function presided over by Andre Auger, Chief of the Field Crops Service of the Department of Agriculture.

Messrs. Gelinas, Hotte and Lafontaine placed second, third, fourth respectively in the provincial judging.

## New Ways In Farming

Quebec bees produced 3,728,000 pounds of honey in 1957, almost 27% more than in 1956, and this in spite of the fact that fewer farmers kept bees. Good weather conditions, on which depend the quantity and quality of the crop, can be given as the reason for the increase.

Louis Bosse, perennial president of the Quebec Beekeepers' Association, pointed out at the annual meeting recently that changing practices in farming in Quebec have had an effect on the honey producers. For example,

## Affect The Honey Crop

new ways of haymaking have resulted in much clover being cut just as it comes into flower. Ladino and Birds-foot clovers have replaced, to a large extent, sweet clover and Alsike, and the new varieties are not nearly as good for honey-making. Wild white clover is giving place to Ladino; the wild shrubs that used to grow along the ditches are disappearing; in one area, around Chateau-guay, buckwheat, long the standby for dark honey, is going out of fashion and is being replaced by canning

crops. In short, the bees are finding it hard to get the nectar and pollen they need.

J. H. Lavoie, Chief of the Horticulture Service, blamed three things for the low production in Quebec, where we produce only one-third of the honey we use. There is a great difference in the production from farm to farm; there are not enough of the right crops for the bees to work, and average production per hive is much too low.

He suggested that a drive should be made to try to push production in Lake St. John and Abitibi, where conditions are good for this type of product.

J. M. Couture stressed the absolute need of more care for sanitation in honey production; there are some beekeepers in Quebec who apparently have the most rudimentary ideas of cleanliness, and a good product simply cannot be made under dirty conditions. Jules Methot, Chief of the Apiculture Division, had instituted a programme last year under which substantial prizes were offered for farmers who made needed improvements in their working quarters; but the results were most disappointing. However, another effort is going to be made this year.

## A Good Year for Hogs

Breeders of hogs had a good season in 1957; one of the best for some time. There was no trouble in getting good prices for the pure bred, and while there may be a recession in 1958, prospects still are bright. As evidenced by the figures, great progress was achieved by the pure bred breeders of Quebec last year; membership in the society up by 3% to 191; registrations up 60% to 2340 and transfers up 42% to 1875. One hundred seventy were entered in advanced registry and 99 qualified. There are now 75 breeders in the province with stock on advanced registry.

New regulations adopted by the Federal Government with regard to advanced registry, made necessary by limitation of space at the Lennoxville testing station, met with sharp criticism from the members of the Society. It is the intention of the testing service to concentrate on boar testing, and while the meeting went on record as approving this in principle, the members were reluctant to see any cutting down in the work on sows, particularly as this is just getting well established and proving popular with the breeders. The plan is to do away with the issuance of certificates, though the information formerly supplied as to carcass grades etc. would still be available. The prospect of doing their own feed consumption and rate of gain tests on the home farms did not appeal to the breeders. The upshot of it was that it was decided to make representations to have the space available at the testing station enlarged so that the boar testing plan could be proceeded with without prejudice to the testing of sows.



Lucien Desmarais of St. Simon won the Top Breeder trophy for 1957; this was based on his record at the Quebec Fair. Making the presentation is President Preston Hooker of Ormstown.

## Citations for Good Work

Tribute was paid to a number of breeders who had particularly distinguished themselves during the year just finished. The presentation of the trophy for the best breeder, judging by performance at the Quebec Fair, number of registrations, etc. was made to Lucien Desmarais of St. Simon, who also was awarded one of the prizes donated by the Meat Packers Council. Others of these went to Gerard Gosselin of St. Anselme and to L. Legare of Princeville. Special prizes offered by the Production Service of the Federal Department of Agriculture were won by Mr. Legare, by the Moffette School at Ville Marie, by Clement Miville of St. Pamphile, and Jos. Trudel of St. Irene.

With two exceptions, the board of directors was re-elected. They will be, for 1958, Frs. Montmigny, president; Amedee Gagnon, vice-president; Messrs. P. E. Girard, M. Sylvestre, Leo Filion, Chas. Milot and R. Laliberte.

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## Good Cleaning Means Clean Crops

A proper job of cleaning is one of the most important steps in the preparation of a lot of grain to be used for seed. The Quebec Brewers' Association highlighted this fact by providing a sum of \$100 to be divided among farmers entered in the 1957 Barley Competition who had done this job best.

Prizes of \$25 were won by Hervé Vallé of Ste. Martine and J. P. Boyer of St. André. Roland Bellerose won two prizes totalling \$25, and Douglas Fulford of Shawville won \$15. The sample submitted by Omer Pilon of St. Clet won him \$10.

## Sheep Breeders Hope for Better Times

PRESIDENT Azellus Lavallee had some pertinent facts to lay before Quebec's sheep breeders at their annual meeting held in Montreal late in January. Membership in the society is falling off and so are registrations and transfers; the three figures for 1957 are 180, 991 and 791, as compared with 201, 1491 and 1305 for 1956. In his opinion, sheep men on the whole depend too much on others to do their marketing for them; they run to the agronomist instead of looking after their own interests. More aggressive selling by the individual breeder is a must.

Faced with the situation of a declining industry, the board of directors prepared and presented to the meeting a set of suggestions from which they hoped a programme of action for 1958 might be built up. In their view, there are three factors which are mainly responsible for the present situation. Breeders have too little protection against dogs. The average flock is far too small, and in too many cases sheep are kept as a relatively unimportant and neglected sideline. Not enough information is available to the average farmer about the best methods of raising sheep, of keeping them healthy, and of reaching the markets with the product. The following suggestions were put forward as possible lines of action.

1. The law governing dogs should be amended to give more adequate protection to owners of sheep flocks, and the method of making claims should be simplified.

2. The province should be zoned into areas best adapted to sheep raising, to make it easier to get the next suggestions working.

3. At least one demonstration flock should be established in each county, on farms of those who represent a good average of the district; these flocks should be of at least 30 head. Two study days should be organized each year, one in the spring and the other in August before the lambs are marketed.

4. Sales of classified rams should be organized in each of the areas each fall, so that the farmers could choose their own rams; and these rams should be offered at prices that will attract buyers.

5. Means should be found to make it possible for the farmers in these areas to buy good breeding females to add to their flocks.

6. For farmers who want to specialize in sheep, and who will have flocks of at least 50 head, there should be a specialist veterinarian on the staff of the Health of Animals Branch to whom these breeders could come for advice on problems of disease and control.

7. The newly-adopted practice of flock classification has given an index of where the best flocks are. It is thought that a certain number of high quality rams of the different breeds should be imported and placed in

these flocks, which would then become sources of breeding stock for all breeders.

8. It is thought that the Department of Agriculture should discontinue its policy of offering purchase premiums for CL rams, and instead offer these premiums for the purchase of good two-year old rams whose breeding quality has been proved by progeny tests.

9. There is need for sheep specialists on the extension staff, one for each of the three main sheep raising parts of the province. These men would be responsible for encouraging sheep raising in their respective areas, to look after the demonstration flocks, and to advise and help farmers with all their sheep problems. It was also thought that the agronomists could give more attention to the problems of sheep farmers, especially in the marketing. Buyers have given assurance that they will pay the highest possible prices for good market lambs weighing up to 110 pounds at the shipping points.

10. Finally, it is considered that the agronomists could be of great service by organizing shipments of wool to the co-operative at Lennoxville; wool sales are not, at present, bringing to the farmer as much revenue as he should be getting.

### Flock Classification

This is the first year when pure-bred flocks have been classified into the three categories, A, B and C. Eighty-four flocks were classified, and 58 received certificates; 6 class A, 32 class B and 20 class C. It was pointed out that in many cases a flock graded B could have moved into the A class with the removal of one or two animals from each. The classification certificates were at the meeting to be presented, but in most cases the owner of the flock hadn't come to the meeting; a fact which emphasized the president's claim that sheep breeders need to take much greater interest in their own affairs than they do.

Agronomist J. A. Lambert and L. V. Parent of the Wool Co-operative both stressed the importance of working with the juniors through their 4-H clubs; sheep clubs flourish in other provinces and there should be more attention given to this branch of farming in our 4-H programme.

Livestock Director Pierre Labrecque was glad to see that a programme of action was being developed, but pointed out that many of these schemes had been suggested and tried before. However, he was sure that improvement could be brought about if only the farmers themselves would wake up and do something about it.

Although he had asked to be relieved of his duties, A. Lavallee was re-elected president of the Society. Vice president will be Paul Mayrand, and the directors Art. Belzile, Jean Lemieux (who won the trophy for having the best flock of Hampshires at Quebec last fall), N. G. Bennett, Albani Nichol and L. P. McCarthy.



## THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*and to matters of interest to them  
Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes*

### An English Nurse in Canada

This article is an attempt to show a few of the differences in the life and work of a nurse in Canada, with all its space and limitless possibilities for the future, and our geographically small country with so much history and so many ancient buildings that are still used as hospitals, and so much bomb damage that is still being rebuilt that there is not one new post-war hospital. The newest hospital in England is "The Westminster", which as the names denotes, is in the heart of London, it was completed just before the war and luckily survived the bombs.

In Canada I got the impression of immense wealth, and the hospital in which I was working was only built in 1954, and therefore, had all the conveniences and equipment. Although I had a great deal to learn of Canadian methods it was a real pleasure to work there. Of course, I am used to the National Health Service, which I expect is a thing of the future for Canada. This, in my opinion, is a great boon to the country. It means that anybody can see a doctor; if necessary he can then consult a specialist, go to hospital, receive treatment and even go to the country or seaside afterwards to convalesce. This scheme is financed by a system whereby every adult person over 18 years of age and under 65 contributes a certain sum each week. In the case of a single housewife this is 5/9d, a working woman pays 5/6d and a man 7/5d. In the case of those working 6/d is paid by the employer and the balance by the employee. The contributions are made in the form of stamps, obtainable at any post office. These are stuck on cards and every 12 months are renewed. This scheme also covers old age pensions which are provided at the age of 60 for a woman and 65 for a man, the sum drawn weekly being 50/-. It also confers benefits on mothers having babies at home, and at death pays £25 towards funeral expenses. This scheme is compulsory no matter the size of one's income and regardless of whether one is a landowner or a tramp!

We all realize that in order for a patient to recover more quickly and effectively he should have as few worries as possible; here again I think Britain is ahead as every hospital has a trained almoner, or several according to the

(In the note accompanying this article, Mrs. W. B. Holmes, Q.W.I. Convenor of Welfare and Health, says "This was written for me by Miss Hazell, with whom I worked at the Sherbrooke Hospital. I asked her to make some comments on the Health Insurance Plan in operation in England—I thought it would be timely as it is now definitely under consideration in Canada." Miss Hazell is a Registered Sick Children's Nurse (R.S.C.N.), a State Certified Midwife (S.C.M.) and a State Registered Nurse (S.R.N.).)

size of the hospital; this good lady visits the patient and his home and fixes up the family needs to the best of her ability in his absence. Also, under the health service there are health visitors to visit the homes and give advice on any subject from new born babies to how an old age pensioner may get his cheap tobacco.

In Canada the financial worry of hospital treatment is, in my opinion, a set-back to speedy recovery. It also deters a would-be patient from having treatment at all, or until his complaint is more serious.

As far as training to be a nurse goes, the Canadian girl has it all on a silver salver. It takes the same number of years in England, and I think it fair to say the exams are just about as difficult, but we have an oral exam during the preliminary stage and an hour's practical during the finals which is most petrifying, and on which, I am sure, several would-be Florence Nightingales fail from sheer nerves. I think we in England have something to learn as far as ceremonies go. I much enjoyed the capping ceremony and graduation I saw in Canada. I think it encourages the student nurse's friends and family to take an interest in her training and by their interest she finds encouragement to go on. Even in Canada I am sure most students pack their bags at least once during their training and decide they cannot stand another minute of drudgery! Talking of drudgery, in England it really IS, much more so than in Canada. The students, especially during the first few months in the wards, seem to spend a great deal of their working day in the sluice or utility room as you call it. We had to do a great deal of washing walls and cleaning baths and bed pans, and as for damp dusting, we practically did it in our sleep! It was quite a common occurrence for the ward Sister (head nurse) to come round later and wipe her finger along a ledge or lamp shade, and woe betide the junior nurse who had left a speck of dust there.

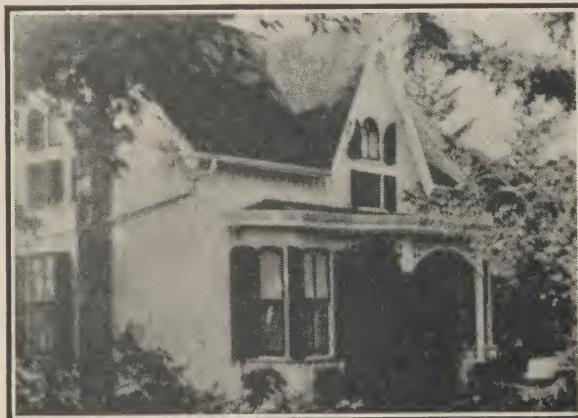
The hours in Canada are a great blessing. I do not know of any hospital in England where they work eight hour shifts. I find it a much more pleasant life to work eight hours and then be free, or even be able to plan for your hours off weeks ahead, as you usually know which shift you will be working which week in Canada; whereas, in England we work 7.30 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. every day, with three hours off sometime during the day. We never know from week to week which three hours we will be free each day, either 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. (having had dinner)

2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m., or off at 5.00 p.m., which means on the best day we work 7.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. We get 1½ days off a week, the half-day usually starting at 3.30 p.m., which in Canada is considered the end of a complete day's work.

As for night duty, that for me is the worst bug-bear of all, *three months* at a time, not two weeks as in Canada, and the hours are 8.00 p.m. to 8.00 a.m. with half-an-hour off for dinner, and if we're not too busy we usually get 20 minutes on the ward for tea, five nights off a month. This is usually split into two nights one two weeks and three nights during the following two weeks. There is no regularity about nights off at all. It is possible to have two nights off at the beginning of one two-weeks spell and three off at the end of the next, which means one can work 3½ weeks without a break; and usually night duty is not spent placidly rolling bandages, or creeping round romantically gazing at a row of sleeping patients. It is often one mad rush, with a senior student (either in her second or third year) and a junior, on her first night duty, to run and manage a ward of anything up to 36 patients, often with emergency admissions and operations to cope with too. Of course, there is a night sister in charge of the whole hospital, and she can always be contacted by telephone if advice or help is needed; she also does her rounds three times during the night, visiting each ward and with the nurse in charge going round to every bed to see that all is well.

Reading this, nursing in England must seem terrible, but in actual fact I enjoy it very much and so do a great many others I know, however there is an acute shortage of nurses and until that is rectified I see no possibility of eight hour shifts and until there are eight hour shifts I can see no probability of the numbers of new students increasing; it is therefore, a vicious circle.

However, nursing is fundamentally the same in *any* country, and nobody can work harder or more efficiently than her best, and that is frequently called for on both sides of the Atlantic.



The United Empire Loyalist home of Mr. and Mrs. Erland Lee, who arranged that first meeting for Mrs. Hoodless, which resulted in the formation of the Women's Institutes.

## The Month With The W.I.

As I wrote this, word was just received that Mrs. C. Vintinner, Publicity Convenor of Abbotsford W.I. had passed away on January 7. She was a loyal convenor and will be sadly missed by all who had worked with her. Our sympathy goes out to the branch, where she also served as secretary.

**Brome:** Abercorn netted \$100 on two dances and made plans for another. AUSTIN sent a Canadian calendar to the "English Link" and planned a house-warming for a newly married couple. Knowlton's Landing planned the coming year's program and started an afghan, a branch project, for the summer sale. Sutton held a card party and auction sale. The Red Cross Convenor reported that 192 pairs of socks and 10 quilts had been handed in.

**Chat-Huntingdon:** Aubrey-Riverfield heard papers on "Religion" and "Life". Their current project is to make more quilts. Demonstrations were crocheted dress ornament and Swedish weaving. Howick held a showing of home-made gifts, which had been received at Christmas, and heard talks on "Welfare and Health" and "Home Economics". Hemmingford has established a Scholarship of \$50. A guessing contest and a demonstration of nylon flowers formed the program. Dundee donated \$10 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund. Huntingdon presented a faithful member, 82 years of age, with a gift for her birthday. Articles were read on "The Early Canadians' Christmas" and "Salk Vaccine", and a talk was given by the President of the Red Cross. Ormstown had a quiz on the "History and Work of the Q.W.I." and a guessing contest. Papers here dealt with "The Ideal Environment for a Young Scientist" and Miss Neilson's year in Thailand with the FAO. (Miss Neilson is Director, School of Household Science, Macdonald College).

**Compton:** Bury gave a donation of \$15 toward expenses of High School pupils competing in the Montreal Music Festival. Short talks were given on a variety of topics and clothing and bedding donated to Save the Children Fund. Pillow slips were also given to a former member who had lost her home by fire. Canterbury held a "Home Economics" meeting, with a quiz on that topic. Cookshire had a discussion on "A Good Square Look at the Cookshire W.I.", using such questions as: Are your meetings too long? What have you done so far this year? Have we undertaken too much financial responsibility? East Angus spent \$25 on sunshine work and received a donation of \$5. East Clifton heard excerpts from "The History of the W.I. Movement in England and Wales", followed by a discussion. A quiz on names was held. Sawyerville received the donation of some quilt blocks and a bee will be held to complete the quilt. This will be sold, when completed, the money to be used for school fair prizes. Cotton was collected for the Cancer Society.

Dr. Lowry was the guest speaker and stressed the need for a Community Dental Clinic.

**Gaspe:** Sandy Beach heard a report on a special meeting when the fair program was discussed. Gifts have been sent to children in the hospital. York's roll call was answered by handing in complaints to be sent to the CAC. Copies of the proposed program for the fair were distributed and a quilt planned for the branch project. A request was sent to the Highway Department regarding posting speed-zones on the roads, especially in the vicinity of schools.

**Gatineau:** Breckenridge distributed copies of their fair list and each member selected the article she wished to make. A demonstration on bows for fancy parcels was given by Mrs. Archambault. Eardley had their 40th anniversary meeting and plan to celebrate in the spring with a supper to which old members and families would be invited. Two contests were held and readings given. Kazabazua had a contest and planned a card party. Lower Eardley's project is to prepare a scrapbook with the branch history, pictures of the W.I. and surrounding country, recipes and handicrafts for their pen-pals in New Zealand. A discussion was held on "Do Farmers Need as much Education as City Men". Rupert held a dance to replenish W.I. funds. A box of prunes was sent to the Gatineau Hospital and another to the Brookdale Farm. Wakefield is making plans for presenting a play. The program consisted of a reading and contests. Wright had readings on: Safe Driving, Health and Home Nursing (followed by discussion) and "The Symptoms of Being 35".

**Jacques Cartier:** Ste. Anne packed three baskets of food for needy families. After routine business a social hour was held with about 30 present.

**Megantic:** Inverness made a quilt for a needy family and discussed articles for a sale.

**Missisquoi:** Cowansville had a demonstration on the making of braided rugs. A prize is to be awarded to the member who makes the best. Fordyce sent gifts to Sherbrooke School for Retarded Children, the Children's Hospital, (Montreal) and a donation to Dr. Rogers Memorial Fund. An article, "How Vital is the W.I. Today?" was read and a contest held on the Q.W.I. Letters were read from the W.I. link in Tasmania. Stanbridge East had an "Evaluation Meeting" when questions, criticisms and suggestions were discussed. Seeds have been ordered for the School Fair and a card party held at a member's home.

**Montcalm:** Rawdon reports a home-cooking sale and a Military Whist party. The President's New Year's message was read, "A Look Around and Ahead". Miss Dupuis stressed the fact that the branch was large enough to grow into a position of leadership in the Community... that the contributing power of an expanding organization is closely linked with the interest and effort displayed by its younger members.



Mrs. R. Johnstone is pinning a life membership pin on Mrs. Norman Montgomery, who was the first president of the Valcartier W.I.

**Papineau:** Lochaber's roll call was "The Proverb I use most often". Handwork done by a member was demonstrated.

**Richmond:** Cleveland sent a donation of \$10 to the Cecil Memorial Home and had a quiz on the Handbook. Gore sent a box to Veterans. Melbourne Ridge catered for a Legion Banquet, netting \$93, donated \$15 to the Salvation Army and toys and clothing to the Montreal Children's Hospital. Shipton sent jams and jellies to the Wales Home. Spooner Pond's members are donating 25 cents per member toward powder and soap for the Cecil Memorial Home.

**Pontiac:** Clarendon made donations to the TB and CNIB funds. Elmside donated \$5 to the Community Hospital and sent a box of clothing to the Unitarian Service. Fort Coulonge sent a donation to the TB fund. All enjoyed hearing a letter from a former president. Wyman made arrangements for building a cabin for their rink.

**Shefford:** Granby Hill answered the rollcall by giving an item of interest about another W.I. Plans are underway for making two quilts and a contest was held. Granby West discussed a party and held a contest.

**Sherbrooke:** Ascot purchased a First Aid Kit for the school and bought UNICEF cards. Belvidere had a display of hats made at the course and held a Penny Sale. Gifts were sent to cancer patients with dressings from the local clinic, and a donation was made to UNICEF. Lennoxville had a discussion on the speech made by Lester B. Pearson when awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. A contest was held and 52 squares sent to the WVS. Milby sent \$26 to the Service Fund and collected \$5.65 for gifts to be sent with the cancer dressings. Table decorations, and hats made at the workshop, were displayed.

**Stanstead:** Minton packed baskets for shut-ins. Short stories were read. Stanstead North donated gifts for the Home in Austin and scrapbooks and materials were purchased for the Children's Ward at the Sherbrooke Hospital. Way's Mills made donations to the Cecil Memorial Hospital and a needy family and sent toys to the Montreal Children's Hospital. UNICEF cards were sold.

## OFFICE HAPPENINGS

All branches have now received their new Handbooks. Let the Q.W.I. office know if you need more copies — every member should have one.

### National Office

The question of a National Office for the FWIC is in the hands of a Committee. A resolution was passed at the national convention to set this up in Canada, and the committee appointed. Our Mrs. Ellard is chairman and other members are Mrs. W. L. Clark, the former FWIC secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Jas. Haggerty, president of the Ontario W.I., as the site of this office is to be in her province.

### Tweedsmuir Competition

The national committee for the next Tweedsmuir Competition consists of Mrs. E. B. Roylance, President B.C.W.I. Chairman; Mrs. Wm. Bishop, President N.S.W.I. and Mrs. W. A. Thomson, Sask. a former member of this committee. They hope to have details of the 1957-59 competition ready soon, as work should be starting on the entries. (The January "Journal" tells what these are).

### With Other Groups

At the last meeting of the Montreal Council of Women, the problem of special classes for mentally or physically handicapped children was the subject of a panel discussion. It is the right of these children to have training fitted to their needs, as much as for the normal child, and government funds should be made available on a similar basis, was the conclusion reached.

Q.W.I. members will be interested in hearing that a new school for trainable mentally retarded children has been opened in Hull. Just eight months after the first public meeting was held in that area, classes were started. Institutes around Hull have taken an active part in this project and Mr. Sutton, whom delegates will remember as one of the speakers at last year's convention, has also visited Wakefield, Quyon and Shawville, speaking by request on this problem. Commenting on this, the last issue of the bulletin published by the Quebec Association



This picture was taken at the Valcartier's turkey supper when they celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the W.I.

for the Help of Retarded Children says, "We feel that we will be hearing from some one in each of these towns who will have accepted the challenge and do something concrete about the pressing problem of help for retarded children". It is gratifying to know Institutes in that part of the province are taking such an active part in promoting this Q.W.I. project.

The Canadian Association of Consumers is still concerned about trading stamps and further representation is being made to the Attorney-General. Vitaminized apple juice was also discussed. Housewives may be assured that this is of top quality and will retain its vitamin C content on a comparable basis with citrus fruit juices.

## The Queen's Tree



When the Queen was in Ottawa last fall, she planted a maple tree in the grounds of Government House.

Shown in our picture, taking the silver shovel from the Queen after the ceremony, is Ralph Hayter, a graduate of Macdonald College in the class of 1947, who has been in charge of landscaping and maintenance of the grounds of Government House for many years.



## Dear Readers:

"Cease not to learn until thou cease to live." These words by DeFour Pibroc were carried on the second issue of the "Greenleaf" of July, 1939. Reviewing the days since R. Alex Sim opened an office of the Adult Education Service in Lennoxville, I find the extent of advancement to be miraculous. Many methods have been used to bring means of education to rural Quebec. Those were the early days of Community Schools, or the School for Leaders, as it was advertised. Since then there are few parts of the province in which there has not been a chance to attend such a school. Some six or seven have had my own membership. At present one is meeting in Richmond, with Stanstead and Knowlton just over. Camp Lacquemac has been a part of this, too, and now it has a Dominion-wide membership.

The old Greenleaf reported that there had been several requests for information on study groups, among them one from Fred Shufelt of Stanbridge East. A Rural Problems Club and Neighbour Nights, described by

A. B. Walsh, were being held for Diploma Course students.

Then followed a scheme called Farm Radio Forum. We've seen this go across Canada and grow from something very small into an organization studied by other nations for its originality and its educational, social and cultural value.

The evidence of the work of Farm Forum and the organizations they have brought into being was very much in the news lately when Hansard read very much like a Farm Forum report, except that I am sure they bettered us on the point of argument up at Parliament at Ottawa. We have made our importance felt. Rural Canada speaks through its Farm Forum Reports.

Another mention was the formation of a Library Association. Books could be borrowed from the Lennoxville office of the Adult Education Service. Today the Bookmobile with its travelling library visits many parts of the province.

Bit by bit all this has been growing. Put together into Community Schools,

Leadership Courses, Libraries, Study Groups, Farm Forum, Women's Institutes and 4-H Clubs, we have our way of living. The leaders and the followers are to be congratulated for their good work. May it continue!

Best wishes,

*Wally.*

## Quebec Apple Growers Officers

The incoming slate of officers of the Society includes Hamilton Marshall as president; Nolasque April, vice-president; Father Fernand L. Lussier, N. Morin, H. Boucher, G. Thomson, E. Jodoin, J. P. Lebrun, N. Lanctot, A. A. Churchill, J. K. McArthur, Ed. Chaplin, J. Godbout, F. Dufour and Y. Bolduc are the directors, with Jacques Berthiaume continuing as secretary.

## Farm Forum News & Views (continued from page 7)

have to depend on voluntary support. Mansonville in Brome County states the case for co-ops: "We think co-ops have very good possibilities provided they have more than a minority support and are well managed." The forums could suggest but few other means of achieving the same ends as do co-ops and marketing boards, other than by government control.

### National Meeting

During January, the semi-annual meeting of National Farm Radio Forum was held in Montreal. The National Board accepted the resignation of Floyd Griesbach, who has served as national secretary for eight years and who was secretary for Quebec Farm Forums for three years before his appointment to National

Farm Radio Forum. It is not yet definite when his duties will terminate.

For financial and administrative reasons, some changes may be made in the program next year. However, the Board definitely decided to continue publishing a National Farm Forum Guide, although the form may be somewhat modified. The Board also agreed that National Farm Radio Forum, or a similar program, is as essential now as it ever has been, and that it would continue.

### Farm Price Support Bill Passed

In late January the Harkness Bill received third and final reading in the House of Commons. The Bill provides for permanent price supports on nine major farm products. The guaranteed price will be at least 80% of the latest ten year average of market prices.

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## THE COLLEGE PAGE

### The Macdonald Clan

*Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students*

### To Study British Farming



Charles Gallagher, B.Sc. (Agr.) '57, is one of two young Canadian farmers who has been awarded a Lord Nuffield Foundation Farm Scholarship for 1958. This project is sponsored by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture on behalf of the Foundation, and the award provides for a six-month stay in the United Kingdom.

Going over with Mr. Gallagher is Stewart Van Petten of Chaton, Alberta; these two were chosen from eleven applicants from seven provinces, all sponsored by their respective provincial federations of agriculture.

Mr. Gallagher farmed 350 acres at Centreville, N.B. for almost ten years after he graduated from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. He then came to Macdonald College to complete the work for his degree, then returned to his farm. He has always been keenly interested in farm organizations, and has been president of his local co-operative, president of the New Brunswick Holstein Breeders' Association, a director of the New Brunswick Cream Producers' Marketing Board, and a provincial representative to the Dairy Farmers of Canada. At Macdonald College he made an outstanding contribution as President of the Students' Council.

He and Mr. Van Petten left for overseas at the end of February, and will work for a month on a selected British farm. The rest of their stay will be spent in a tour of the United Kingdom, where they will visit agricultural exhibitions, livestock centres, agricultural colleges etc. for special studies.

### Visitors From Overseas

When a group of Scottish ladies were in Canada earlier this winter on a curling tour, they took time from a busy schedule of matches to spend a few hours at Macdonald College. Before visiting the Household Science



laboratories they went over to the barns and had a look at the livestock.

Our herd sire, Carnell Easter Lad, caught the attention of one of the ladies, for she lives at Hurlford in Scotland, on the neighbouring farm to that of J.N.R. Templeton, the home of the Carnell herd. She had known Easter Lad since he was a calf, and was most interested in seeing him again in his new home.

Easter Lad was imported by R. R. Ness & Sons, and was bought by the College at the Sale of Stars at the Royal a year ago.

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Two of our graduates were the principals in a ceremony which took place early in November at Hull, P.Q.

Neil Drummond, B.S.A., the popular Shawville agro-nome, was presented with a Tree Farm Certificate as the owner of an outstanding tree farm in that area for the year.

Making the presentation, in his capacity as Vice-president of the Quebec Forestry Association (which sponsors the 4-H Forestry Clubs) was Robert Raynauld, owner and publisher of the French-language magazine *La Ferme*. Mr. Raynauld earned his M.Sc. degree from the College the year before Mr. Drummond graduated.

**FORWARD WITH CANADA**

## **Blueprinting the Future...**

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